

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/836,794

Examiner

Kripa Sagar

Applicant(s)

STEWART, JEFFREY

Art Unit

1756

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 10/16/03.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-11.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 17 April 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * Certified copies not received: _____.
5. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
 - (a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
6. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. **THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

7. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
8. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No. _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the proposed drawing correction filed _____, which has been approved by the Examiner.
 - (c) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No. _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet.

9. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449), Paper No. _____.☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No. _____.☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance☐ Other

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. The amendment filed 10/16/03 has been entered. Claims 2-5,17 are amended; no new matter has been introduced by the amendment. Claims 1-22 are under consideration.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Kit Stetina on 12/15/03. The application has been amended as follows:

3. **In the claims:**

Claim 1; I.7: Delete line -- "d. coating the treated second surface of the metal substrate by plasma etching; "

Cancel claims 12-22 without prejudice.

Claims 1-11 are under consideration.

Claim Rejections

4. All claim objections and rejections presented in the earlier office action are withdrawn in view of the amendment.

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claims 1-11 are allowed.
6. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The cited references teach individual elements of claim 1. As argued by the Applicant, the method of combining them would be unobvious or impractical; for instance etching a thinned Si-substrate to roughen the surface would not be practicable. Further, the references are from diverse applications and the motivation for combining them to arrive at the instant process would not be obvious.

Claims 2-11 are allowable for depending from claim 1.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Response to Arguments

7. Applicant's arguments were considered in allowing the claims.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kripa Sagar whose telephone number is 571-272-1392. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mark F Huff can be reached on 571-272-1385. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-0661.

MH/ks

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark F. Huff", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

MARK F. HUFF
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 1700